



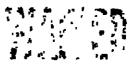
Suite 444

505 Fifth Ave.

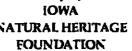
Insurance Exchange Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50309





Phone 515-288-1846 Fax 515-288-0137 c mail info@inhfore ama milloir



April 18, 2007

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 "K" Street, NW Washington, D.C 20423-0001

VIA FAX 202-565-9002



APR 23 2007

## BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

RE: Union Pacific Railroad Abandonment, DALLAS County, Iowa; Docket # AB-33 (Sub-No. 213X) between milepost 296.8 near Waukee to milepost 275.9 (equation M P 275.9=361.8) near Perry, and from milepost 361.8 to milepost 369 0 near Dawson, Dallas County, Iowa.

> Motion to Extend the Time Period for Negotiation of an Interim Frail Use/Railbanking Agreement

On behalf of the Dallas County Conservation Board (public agency) the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation hereby moves the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) to extend the time period for negotiation of a mutually acceptable interim trail use/railbanking agreement in this proceeding up and including October 22, 2007.

The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and the Dallas County Conservation Board have been negotiating with the Union Pacific Railroad (LPRR), but the parties need additional time to finalize negotiations

To successfully preserve this corridor for interim trail use and railbanking under section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. 1247 (d), it is necessary for the negotiation period under the NITU to be extended up to and including October 22, 2007 See Policy Statement on Rails to Trails

Conversions, Ex Parte No. 274 (Sub. No. 13b) (ICC served Feb. 5, 1990) (extensions of time promote the establishment of trails and railbanking consistent with the National Trails System Act).

Since the issuance of the NIIU, UPRR at all points has maintained intent to transfer the line intact for interim trail use. The railroad has not sold, or offered for sale, any parcels of land that would interfere with interim trail use and railbanking of the portion of the corridor that is covered by the NITU. The line remains intact and throughout the period, the railroad has been negotiating with INHF for the transfer or sale of the corridor intact. Accordingly, the Board retains jurisdiction to extend the NITU to continue bona fide and active negotiations for interim trail use of the line.

In similar instances, this Board has reopened proceedings to permit the issuance of orders implementing section 8(d) for rail lines. The STB's authority to extend a NITU was upheld in <u>Birt v. STB</u>, 90 F.3d 580 (D C. Cir. 1996). Here the parties merely seek and extension in the period for negotiation provided in a previously issued NITU. Such an extension will promote and further the purposes of the Trails Act

For the reasons stated the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation Dallas County Conservation Board request that an extension of the NITU negotiation period be granted through **October 22**, **2007**.

Respectfully Sybjinitted,

Mark C Ackelson, President

cc: Mike Wallace, Dallas County Conservation Board

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 18, 2007, a true and accurate copy of the foregoing motion has been served to the following party via first-class mail, postage prepaid and VIA FAX to 312-777-2065

Mack H. Shumate, Jr. Umon Pacific Railroad 101 N. Wacker Dr. Rm 1920 Chicago. Il 60606-1718

Mark C. Ackelson, President

cc. Mike Wallace, DCCB